

## **Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A method of call admission control for continuous streams of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks that are in communication with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of using the initiating telephone connected to a first of the local area networks to:
  - a) determining determine an acceptable packet loss rate for a call which is to be established from the initiating telephone to a second between two of the local area networks;
  - b) determining determine an actual packet loss rate for the call prior to the call being established;
  - c) comparing compare the actual packet loss rate to the acceptable loss rate for the call prior to the call being established; and
  - d) dropping the call to be established if the actual packet loss rate is greater than the acceptable packet loss rate;  
wherein, prior to dropping the call to be established, said method includes the further step of using the initiating telephone to increasing increase the priority of the transmission of the continuous stream of data when the actual packet loss rate is not acceptable, and repeating steps a) to d).

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein step d) includes determining using the initiating telephone to determine for how long a

time period the actual packet loss rate has been happening and utilizing that time period in deciding whether to drop the call.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including the step of playing a recorded announcement when the call is to be dropped.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including the step of storing data relating to dropped calls for future use.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including the step of storing data relating to dropped calls for future use.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein step b) comprises transmitting using the initiating telephone to transmit a trial burst of packets and analysing to analyse the returned packets to determine the actual packet loss rate.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)